



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/686,380
FILING DATE 15 October 2003
INVENTOR Theresa Ditter
ASSIGNEE St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V.
GROUP ART UNIT Unknown
EXAMINER Unknown
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. 47563.0004
TITLE "Vascular Sealing Device With Locking Hub"

TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

To: Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: L. Grant Foster
HOLLAND & HART LLP
555 - 17th Street, Suite 3200
P.O. Box 8749
Denver, Colorado 80201
Telephone: (801) 595-7830
Facsimile: (801) 364-9124

Enclosed are the items listed below submitted regarding the matter identified above:

1. Transmittal Letter with Certificate of Mailing included
2. PTO Return Postcard Receipt
3. Information Disclosure Statement
4. Form PTO-1449 (2 Sheets)
5. Copy of Cited References

Deposit Account Authorization - The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any applicable fees to Deposit Account No. 08-2623.

Date: 19 DECEMBER 2003

By: J. Grant Foster

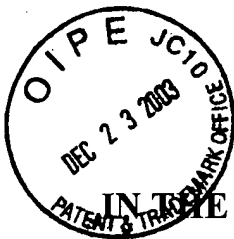
Grant Foster
Reg. No. 33,236

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify the items listed above as enclosed are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as either first class mail or Express Mail, if the blank for Express Mail No. is completed below, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below indicated date.

Express Mail No.

Date: 19 December 2003 Signature: Kathy Case
Name: Kathy Case



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/686,380
FILING DATE 15 October 2003
INVENTOR Theresa Ditter
ASSIGNEE St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V.
EXAMINER Unknown
ART UNIT Unknown
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. 47563.0004
TITLE "Vascular Sealing Device With Locking Hub"

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To: Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: L. Grant Foster
HOLLAND & HART LLP
555 - 17th Street, Suite 3200
P.O. Box 8749
Denver, Colorado 80201
Telephone: (801) 595-7830
Facsimile: (801) 364-9124

The citations listed on attached PTO Form 1449 may be material to the examination of the subject application. Applicant submits copies of these references in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99. The Examiner is requested to review and make these references of record in the above-referenced application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. Further, this submission does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art," Applicant reserves the right to present the relevant facts and law regarding such documents. Applicant reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.


Applicant respectfully requests expeditious examination and a favorable action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 19 DECEMBER 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Grant Foster", written over a horizontal line.

L. Grant Foster
Reg. No. 33,236

Form 01449 		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47563.0004 SERIAL NO. 10/686,380	
LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT: Theresa Ditter	
				FILING DATE: 47563.0004 GROUP:	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
AA	6,179,863	01-30-2001	Kensey, Kenneth et al.	606/215		04-19-1999	
AB	6,090,130	07-18-2000	Nash, John E. et al.	606/213	604/168	06-25-1998	
AC	6,045,569	04-04-2000	Kensey, Kenneth	606/213		01-29-1998	
AD	6,132,439	10-17-2000	Kontos, Stavros	606/139	606/148	02-17-1999	
AE	6,197,042	03-06-2001	Ginn, Richard S. et al.	606/213	606/139	01-05-2000	
AF	6,086,607	07-11-2000	Cragg, Andrew H. et al.	606/213	604/265	02-10-1999	
AG	5,810,884	09-22-1998	Kim, Ducksoo	606/213	606/215	05-19-1997	
AH	5,935,147	08-10-1999	Kensey, Kenneth et al.	606/213	606/232	12-17-1997	
AI	5,830,130	11-03-1998	Janzen, Ernst et al.	606/213	604/15	10-05-1994	
AJ	5,861,004	01-19-1999	Kensey, Kenneth et al.	606/213		08-29-1997	
AK	5,662,681	09-02-1997	Nash, John E.	606/213	604/285	04-23-1996	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
AL								
AM								
AN								
AO								
AP								

OTHER PRIOR ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Form PT 9-144		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE			ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47563.0004		SERIAL NO. 10/686,380	
<div style="position: relative; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="position: absolute; top: 0; left: 0; right: 0; bottom: 0; border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; text-align: center; line-height: 100px; font-size: 12px;"> O P E J C I O E DEC 23 2003 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE </div> </div> <p style="margin: 0;">LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)</p>					APPLICANT: Theresa Ditter			
					FILING DATE: 15 October 2003		GROUP:	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	5,700,277	12-23-1997	Nash, John	606/213	128/887	05-12-1995
	AB	5,728,114	03-17-1998	Evans, Douglas et al.	606/148	606/213	03-07-1996
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS											
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation				
							<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Yes</th> <th style="width: 50%;">No</th> </tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>	Yes	No		
Yes	No										
	AL										
	AM										
	AN										
	AO										
	AP										

OTHER PRIOR ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
	AR		
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.